

Symbolism in our Stained Glass Windows



1. The **Wings and Sword** is a symbol of Saint Michael the Archangel, our defender against the wickedness of the devil.
2. The **Celtic Cross** is because the earliest founders of Saint Michael's were Irish immigrants.
3. The Greek letters **IC XC NI KA** means Jesus Christ, Victor.
4. The **Alpha and the Omega** are the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet. Christ called himself the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end.
5. The **Pelican** is a very ancient symbol of the Eucharist that was found in the catacombs. There is a legend that if there is a severe drought and there is no food, a pelican will pluck its own flesh till it bleeds to feed its chicks. It parallels Christ's self sacrifice on the cross.
6. The **Paschal Lamb** is from the book of Revelation and is the lamb of sacrifice.
7. The **Dove** is the Holy Spirit.
8. The **Keys** are the Keys and authority given to Peter as head of the Church.
9. The **Boat** is a symbol of the Church with Peter and his successors (the popes) at the helm.
10. The **Shell** and drops of water is the symbol of baptism.
11. The **Rose** is a symbol of Mary.
12. The **Fleur de Lis** is another symbol of Mary. It is a stylized Lillie flower.